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FCC Mail Room



July 1, 2014

The Honorable Mignon Clyburn  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Clyburn,

As an elected official, I am acutely aware of the challenges of balancing constituent needs while working on policy solutions that advance all interests. It is especially essential to find common ground policies in an increasingly partisan world. That is why I am encouraged by Chairman Wheeler's proposal regarding broadband regulation. He has effectively found an area where both sides can agree while making sure we do not inhibit broadband growth and development.

Expansion and development of our community is one of the main goals our city council aims to promote. In order to provide a sustainable and desirable way of life, our city and community must open its doors to pro-growth strategies that provide amplified access to equitable resources. In an increasingly technological world, it is vital we facilitate the environment for this type of growth. Unfortunately, new regulations threaten to inhibit our community's growth by reclassifying the Internet under regulations designed for old telephone monopolies. This is neither progressive nor smart for our overall health as a city or a country.

The numerous benefits an open and adaptable Internet provide help millions every day. For minorities in particular, broadband has opened up new doors to allow previously disenfranchised individuals to gain access to health care, engage in civic participation and education. When this type of opportunity and information is accessible to our citizens, it provides a sense of empowerment unparalleled to anything we have known before. It is because of the open and nature of the Internet that this type of growth and success has been possible.

Unfortunately, some want to reclassify broadband as a Title II common carriage utility service and lock in the innovation and growth the Internet has experienced. This type of regulation would inhibit an environment that the Internet needs to grow and evolve effectively. Regulating broadband like it is a utility will stunt investment in the Internet marketplace and will inhibit the many opportunities the internet delivers – especially for those disadvantaged and communities of color.

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Broadband has provided an immense amount of wealth for our state. An estimated \$17 billion of annual online commerce was brought into our state just last year and that number is increasingly growing as consumers turn more and more to the Internet for their goods and services. Allowing this type of growth to expand will keep the trajectory upward, bringing further resources to our communities and empowering more and more people through access to education, health care and job opportunities.

Our community is in the midst of a transformation, we are revitalizing and bolstering our physical infrastructure to better equip our citizens with the resources they need to be successful. Providing for this type of revitalization and growth for the Internet is equally as essential – we must implement pro-growth strategies in order for broadband to be effective. Title II regulations will severely stunt this growth and the consequences will fall unequally on those without proper resources to access the Internet.

I hope that you will agree with Chairman Wheeler and see to it that our cities and citizens are equipped with every possible tool to find success. Promoting an open Internet without costly regulations that will stand in the way of this success is vital to our future. It is through private investment in broadband infrastructure that we will bring further revenue to our state, empower individuals with education and access and allow our country to grow and evolve with the ever-changing Internet that is so vital to our everyday lives.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Davis", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sam Davis  
City Councilman, Chief Executive Officer of BEKOTU and Associates, Inc. LLC.